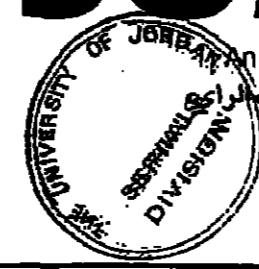


UNESCO delays Palestine request

PARIS (AP) — The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) general conference cleared its first potential controversy Tuesday by postponing the Palestine Liberation Organization's (PLO) request for membership until 1991. The UNESCO decision was taken by voice consensus without a vote. Yacov Aviad, the Israeli representative to UNESCO, protested the resolution "in the most vigorous terms" and said it would divert the organization from more pressing business. The head of the PLO observer mission, Omer Massalha, said his group accepted the postponement "in order to avoid a confrontation or disruption that is not in UNESCO's interest." The United States, which left UNESCO in 1985, had said admitting Palestine as a member state would eliminate any chance of an American return. Had the PLO lobbied to have the membership application approved, it would have succeeded, Massalha said. A majority of UNESCO members recognize the Palestinian state proclaimed last November. In return for agreeing to the postponement, the PLO obtained assurances that UNESCO would involve Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied territories more closely in its activities.

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No candidate barred because of politics

By Nermene Murrad
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The government has refrained from applying provisions in the Election Law banning political activists from running in the Nov. 8 parliamentary elections and seven candidacy nominations were turned down because of procedural reasons, Interior Minister Salem Massa'deh said.

"Not a single nomination was turned down on the grounds that the candidate had affiliations with any illegal political party or group," Massa'deh told a press conference held at the ministry. "This decision followed His Majesty King Hussein's orders, wishes and directives to allow all Jordanians with no exception to practice the holy right (of elections) under the umbrella of the Constitution," he said.

The marked government abstention from applying Article 18 E of the 1986 Election Law and its amendments to bar activists of illegal political parties and groupings from the Nov. 8 elections marked a major turn in the Kingdom's history of elections. It also partly answered questions raised by local, Arab and international analysts and commentators over the Kingdom's intentions to allow the existence of political parties, banned since 1956.

Effectively the decision meant that at least a dozen widely known political activists of parties such as Communists, Baptists, socialist and leftists who describe themselves as "progressive"

nationalists," will be able to address the electorate publicly and seek a role in the Kingdom's decision-making process from the Parliament floor.

Almost all of them have clearly pledged that their activities, election platforms and goals will be adapted to the national needs of the country within the framework of the Constitution.

Massa'deh said that 20,000 government employees and security officers would be on duty at district offices on election day to ensure that the polls were conducted in a "safe, free and honest atmosphere."

The minister urged all registered voters to pick their voter cards and "practice their right to elect their candidates to Parliament."

According to the minister, the number of voters who collected their voter cards until Monday, stood at 554,371 out of 1,200,000 registered voters. "This is a very low percentage. We hope that it will reach at least 90 per cent of the registered voters by the end of this month," Massa'deh said.

The minister stressed that the ministry would not be able to extend the period allocated for distribution of voter cards beyond the end of October. "Because each stage has an allocated time and we cannot delay our work and accumulate it for elections day."

Television coverage on elections day, according to Massa'deh, will include results every three hours, but "we will not name the leaders because we do not want to create sensitivity."



Interior Minister Salem Massa'deh holds a press conference Tuesday to announce the outcome of a three-day nomination process for candidates in the Nov. 8 elections (Petra photo)

Regent underlines media role in communication with citizen

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Tuesday stressed the important role played by the mass media in opening channels of communication with citizens, particularly at this time when Jordan is at the threshold of a new era, which will witness the general parliamentary elections for the first time in 20 years.

Speaking at a meeting with the staff of Jordan television and radio, Prince Hassan said Jordan was passing through a stage of evaluation and that was learning from its past experiences and presenting the perspectives of the future it wants.

He reaffirmed that Jordan had

Jordan has been able to reduce its debt, the Crown Prince pointed out.

Prince Hassan reviewed the positive outcome of the visits made by His Majesty King Hussein to the United States early this year and his recent visit to Canada. The Regent also referred to his own visit to the United States last month, in addition to the visits made by other Jordanian officials. He pointed out that such visits had come up with assistance and investment loans to Jordan.

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Khartoum: Rebels stage unprovoked attacks

KHARTOUM (R) — A member of Sudan's ruling military junta accused the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) Tuesday of staging unprovoked attacks in the southern region of Equatoria.

Brigadier Dominic Kassano told Reuters the SPLA killed 12 people when it ambushed a convoy between the towns of Juba and Yei in southern Sudan last month.

He said the SPLA had abducted at gunpoint some 300 people including children and priests in Iba and Remete in western Equatoria.

A series of ceasefires have been announced by the rebels and the government. The latest truce was declared by Sudan's new military leader General Omar Hassan Al Bashir and expires on Nov. 4.

The SPLA, a predominantly southern movement, is fighting to end what it sees as domination of the Christian and animist south

again to give him a chance to appeal his 40 year prison term, a Khartoum daily said Tuesday.

Al Ingaz Al Watani said Idris Al Banna, a member of the five-man Supreme Council which was disbanded by the new military junta last June, is to have his case referred back to the court which has 289 seats in the 450-seat chamber.

Ozal told a meeting of deputies of his Motherland Party in parliament: "I have finally decided to be a candidate for president."

Ozal's announcement came two days before an official deadline for nominations expires Thursday. No other candidates have entered the race so far.

The opposition Social Democratic Party (SHP) and

the newspaper quoted Ali Mohammad Yassin, the undersecretary in the Attorney General's chamber, as saying the court which sentenced Banna had itself raised his case to the court to appeal to give him another chance.

It said the prosecution counsel has sent a memo to the court asking it to put Banna on trial again.

Somalia admits some army mutinies; Libya sends troops to help Barre

MOGADISHU (R) — President Mohammed Siad Barre admitted for the first time some army troops had mutinied, and rebels accused Libya of sending troops and heavy weapons to back Somalia against them.

Siad Barre told farmers meeting in the capital Mogadishu Monday night that some government troops had "turned the barrel of the gun against those who trained and equipped them."

Without giving details, he condemned rebellious soldiers who he said were fighting loyalists in southern and northern Somalia and backing rebels of the Somali National Movement (SNM).

The SNM, demanding political and economic reforms in the im-

poverished East African nation, has been fighting since 1981 to topple Siad Barre, who seized power in a 1969 coup and turned the country into a one-party state.

"We have been pressured to liberalise the economy. We accepted. They urged us to re-introduce a multi-party system. We accepted that idea. What else do they want from us?" he angrily asked.

The SNM has reported frequent mutinies among government troops especially in the north, where the rebels last year fought heavy battles which nearly destroyed Hargeisa, the region's largest town.

Soviet Azerbaijani defects in Cairo

CAIRO (AP) — A Soviet national from Azerbaijan who dropped out of a tour group, went to the U.S. embassy and sought to defect said Monday he "would rather die here" than return.

The man earlier had sought asylum from the Turkish embassy but was turned down on ground he did not qualify as a legitimate refugee.

Daoud Alyev, 45, an artist and a member of Azerbaijan's Mus-

lim Shi'ite majority, said he left the tour group last week when it arrived in Cairo from southern Egypt.

Leaving the group of 30 tourists from Baku, Azerbaijan, "was very difficult," Alyev said. "All eyes were on everyone. If I was caught, I would have been sent back and killed."

The Soviet embassy was closed for the day and its officials unavailable for comment.

Major rebel offensive threatens Ethiopian government

ADDIS ABABA (R) — Northern rebels have launched a major offensive, according to reports reaching the Ethiopian capital, and the guerrilla forces have inflicted defeat on government troops.

According to diplomats in Addis Ababa, the rebels have pushed government forces back and reached nearly to Dese, 250 kilometres from the capital.

The reports could not be confirmed. But a rebel advance to Dese would raise a threat of cutting the road between Addis Ababa and the Red Sea port of Assab, site of Ethiopia's only oil refinery and one of two key points of entry for tonnes of emergency relief food.

One African diplomat said President Mengistu Haile Mariam's forces would have to act to halt the rebel advance before it becomes serious trouble for the government.

The diplomats interviewed spoke on condition they not be identified.

The push southward is by a group calling itself the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Movement, a combined

force of the Tigré People's Liberation Front and the Ethiopian People's Democratic Movement.

The Liberation Front, which took up arms in 1974, is pressing for increased autonomy for the province of Tigré and the overthrow of Mengistu's Marxist government. The front has an estimated 20,000 troops.

The Democratic Movement, a smaller group, split four years ago from the radical Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Party formed after the 1974 ouster of the late Emperor Haile Selassie.

The Ethiopian army went through a leadership crisis following May 15 coup attempt, when rebels loyal to Mengistu killed at least 14 generals and the government jailed 100 senior officers.

Officers appointed to replace those killed or imprisoned have little field experience and apparently have failed to rally the support of the troops, one African envoy said.

In a speech after the coup, Mengistu said the rebellious generals had lacked patriotism. He blamed them for the government's repeated recent failures in the war for the government.

The diplomats interviewed spoke on condition they not be identified.

The push southward is by a group calling itself the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Movement, a combined

force that began with a joint offensive in May 1988 by the Liberation Front and the secessionist Eritrean Peoples' Liberation Front when the rebels captured most of Tigré and much of Eritrea, Ethiopia's northernmost province.

The Eritreans have been fighting since 1962, but in September began peace talks with the government. The second round of talks is scheduled for Nov. 18 in Kenya's capital, Nairobi.

The government recovered most of its losses in Tigré, but the lines in Eritrea remained static. Another Liberation Front offensive from February to March pushed government forces out of nearly all of Tigré, setting the stage for the recent offensive.

The reports said a string of rebel victories pushed 20,000 government troops and thousands of civil servants from the Tigré provincial capital of Mekelle south to Maychew, near Tigré's southern border and out of the province and into neighbouring Wollo last month.

Diplomats say the Soviet Union, Ethiopia's major arms supplier, is pressing Mengistu to seek a political solution to the fighting, where they said the rebels destroyed at least 15 Soviet-made tanks and captured more than 20. The rebels also seized an unknown number of anti-aircraft guns, multiple rocket launchers, and ammunition, they said.

"Two divisions were wiped out," said one Western diplomat.

The Liberation Front, in a clandestine broadcast Sept. 20, said the rebels killed or wounded 17,000 government troops and captured 10,300. It was impossible to verify the claim.

The Ethiopian government has an estimated 313,000 troops but the morale of the soldiers is questionable.

In addition to low troop morale, Mengistu also faces the problem of financing the war, which he said consumed half of the impoverished nation's budget this year.

The World Bank calculates Ethiopia's per capita income at \$120 a year and considers the Horn of Africa nation of 49 million people the world's poorest.

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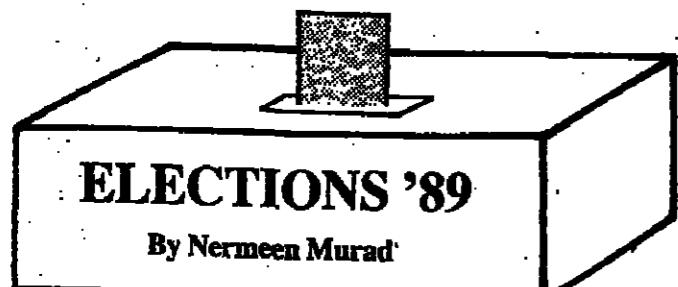
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WINDING roads with sprawling election banners, dusty buildings, veiled women with children, wide streets dotted with small homes, and finally a large ground. The crowd seemed insignificant; it is enough and more of a wide background for a man, a poet with political ideas.

The little children run around in circles. "We can't have a part of the country eating sweets while the rest are tasting bitterness; we want democracy," the man told the silent crowd. The crowds were divided into two; a side for women and children and another for men. There were no softdrinks cans distributed to the voters, no tea or coffee, no kanzaf, nothing but sentences full of ideals, dreams and aspirations.

This candidate is not campaigning in the "prestigious" Third District of Amman, nor is he campaigning in an illiterate area. He is campaigning in Jabel Al Nasir (Second District), one of the "poorest" areas of Amman, where voters do not want favours and sweet words, they want plans.

In the Third District, a candidate, asked about the "mechanism" of his plans, shakes his head and immediately answers: "No one can tell you what he can do. When we get to Parliament we will form... we will... we will."

But in Jabel Al Nasir, the candidate did not have to be asked. "We definitely have to solve our economic problem, and we will definitely have to face some hard times. We will need to tighten our belts and curb our spending but we have to do it with care."

We cannot curb our spending by lifting subsidies of basic foods. We cannot cut the spending of the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health or Ministry of Transport, for these touch the majority of the needy people."

This "people's candidate" stood behind a microphone and said his piece to the pleasure of the crowd as well those thronging the balconies around him. He did not take questions, for he never held a public office that he had to be questioned about. He is not rich for people to ask him "where did you get this from? And most of all he knew their problems so he addressed them before they asked.

As we were leaving at the end of the campaign meeting, a little boy of six was shaking his hand at his friend and then said: "This is... my friend."

☆☆☆

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

QASEM DELIVERS KING'S MESSAGE TO MOROCCO: King Hassan II of Morocco Tuesday received a message from His Majesty King Hussein, dealing with bilateral relations and the latest developments in the region. The message was delivered to King Hassan by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem, who arrived in Rabat Monday. (Petra)

PRINCE MOHAMMAD VISITS PRIME MINISTRY: His Royal Highness Prince Mohammad, the Personal Representative of His Majesty King Hussein, Tuesday called at the Prime Ministry where he met with Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker. (Petra)

COOPERATION PROGRAMME WITH CHILE: The Cabinet Tuesday endorsed the executive programme of cultural and scientific cooperation with Chile for the years 1989-1991. The programme aims to enhance and broaden the scope of cultural and scientific cooperation between Jordan and Chile in implementation of an agreement concluded in 1982. The Cabinet also named Minister of Industry and Trade Ziad Imab, as head of the Jordanian delegation to the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) ministers of industries and trade meetings, which will be held in Baghdad at the end of October. (Petra)

MAJALI OPENS PHOTO EXHIBITION: Minister of Culture and Information Nasouh Al Majali Tuesday inaugurated a five-day photo exhibition, organised by the Italian embassy in cooperation with the Ministry of Culture. On display at the exhibition, held at the Royal Cultural Centre, are photographs of the works by the most renowned Italian artists of the 16th century renaissance period. Attending the inauguration ceremony were the Ministry of Culture's Secretary General, the Italian ambassador to Jordan and a number of diplomats. (Petra)

KHAMMASH MEETS IRAQI COUNTERPART: Minister of Transport Hikmat Khammash met in Baghdad Tuesday with his Iraqi counterpart Mohammed Hamza to discuss different aspects of cooperation between the two countries in transport and communications. Khammash and Hamza are both taking part in the fifth Arab Transport Ministers Council meeting in the Iraqi capital and in the general assembly meeting of the Arab Maritime Bridge Company which is owned jointly by Iraq, Jordan and Egypt and operates the Aqaba-Nweibeh land-sea route. (Petra)

CONFERENCE ON CHEST DISEASES: The University of Jordan and the Health Ministry are jointly organising the second Arab conference on chest diseases which will open here on Oct. 25. Delegates from most Arab countries are expected to take part in the three-day meetings which will review working papers and scientific research dealing with the treatment and surgery of the chest. The Health Ministry plans to submit a working paper dealing with tuberculosis in the Kingdom. (Petra)

ARAB CULTURAL MINISTERS MEETING: Jordan took part in an Arab cultural ministers meeting which was held in Rabat recently under the patronage of King Hassan II of Morocco and with the participation of delegations from 19 Arab states and original and international organisations. Dr. Hani Al Amad, secretary general of the Ministry of Culture who attended the meeting, said that the participants discussed a number of Arab cultural matters designed to bolster cooperation among their countries. (Petra)

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- An art exhibition by Fadil Mimi and 'Ammar Khammash at Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation's Scientific and Cultural Centre.
- An Islamic book exhibition displaying a collection of books dealing with economic and literary matters related to Islam in addition to children's books, at the Yarmouk University.
- A photographic exhibition depicting life as well as historical and archaeological places in Oman at the Yarmouk University.
- An Italian photo exhibition at the Royal Cultural Centre.

FILM

- A French film entitled "Elsa, Elsa" at the Royal Cultural Centre — 8:30 p.m.

BAZAAR

- A bazaar which includes religious and children's books in addition to embroideries and knitwear products, at Al Nuzha Community Centre.

LECTURE

- A lecture, in French, on the urban dimensions of Petra city by Jean-Marie Denizer at the French Cultural Centre — 6:30 p.m.
- A lecture, organised by Azizidast, on "Jordan's regulations regarding higher education in the USA" at the American Centre — 3:30 p.m.

Queen receives honorary doctorate degree

Queen Noor lauds Canada's efforts for Mideast peace

CALGARY (J.T.) — Her Majesty Queen Noor has voiced deep appreciation of Canada's endeavours to bring peace to the Middle East and cited the efforts of notable Canadian statesmen who led the efforts in this direction since 1948.

"Who among us can forget the efforts of Lester Pearson to bring about United Nations action on Palestine in 1948, and again in 1956 over the Suez crisis? And who can fail to appreciate the honourable service of General Burns who commanded the U.N. Emergency Force in Gaza and Sinai during a difficult and critical period," said the Queen in an address at Calgary University upon receiving an honorary doctorate degree in law.

"We in Jordan share the belief that respect for international law and the principles embodied in the United Nations Charter is the best guarantee for peace and stability among nations," the Queen said.

"We have always advocated the resolution of regional conflicts, particularly the Arab-Israeli conflict on the basis of international law, under the auspices of the United Nations," the Queen added.

She said that this year Jordan became one of the first Arab countries to participate in a U.N. peacekeeping effort.

The Queen said: "Your country has already distinguished itself in the humanita-



HM Queen Noor

vited to take part in the current mission in Namibia."

Thanking the university for honouring her with the degree, the Queen said: "I am proud and very pleased to accept the degree which you confer upon me today. With this gesture, not only do you honour me personally, you also honour my country and people of Jordan."

Queen Noor said that during the visit to Canada in the past week she enjoyed new opportunities to learn more about the country and its people, and to exchange ideas on practical means of reinforcing and expanding cooperative exchanges among individuals and institutions in Jordan and Canada.

The Queen said: "Your country has already distinguished itself in the humanita-

rian focus of its foreign policy and in the prominent role it played in the establishment of the United Nations, created for the promotion and preservation of world peace and security, and for the advancement of international law.

"Since then you have contributed actively and effectively to the success of its activities and to furthering world peace. Canada alone has the distinction of having contributed to every major United Nations peacekeeping mission," the Queen said.

His Majesty King Hussein and the Jordanian delegation were present at the presentation ceremony, along with senior officials from the province of Alberta, deans, professors and students of the University of Calgary.

King Hussein addressed a luncheon hosted on the occasion, expressing his appreciation for the degree which, he said, served as an honour to Jordan and its people.

King Hussein paid tribute to the Queen for her continued efforts in social and cultural life as well as in women's affairs in Jordan.

A citation presented to the Queen at the ceremony lauded her continued efforts through the Noor Al Hussein Foundation in carrying out long-term projects in social and cultural fields and in preserving the country's cultural, artistic and folkloric wealth.



Minister of Health and Social Development Tuesday attends the opening of a seminar on zoonotic and parasitic diseases in Amman (Petra photo)

Seminar on zoonotic and parasitic diseases begins

Regent calls for review of health sector plans

By Sabair Obeidat
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

encouraging the research activities in this field," he added.

In his address, president of seminar, Dr. Oumeish Oum, pointed out the objective of a "constructive" seminar: so "it will try to highlight the current status of knowledge on zoonotic and other parasitic diseases in the region."

According to Oumeish, the research needs will be identified and scientific cooperation within the region and with international scientists is to be strengthened.

Other important objectives include a follow up on the research made towards establishing a regional centre of excellence in zoonotic diseases in Amman.

"All this would help direct attention and work of those responsible towards a more effective prevention and control of these diseases," he said.

In ten scientific sessions, the three-day seminar is to discuss the number of working papers presented by both Jordanian and non-Jordanian participants.

Delegates from Canada, Egypt, Greece, Guatemala, Iraq, Lebanon, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Switzerland, Tunisia, the United Kingdom, USA, Zimbabwe and Jordan are attending the seminar.

18,038 road accidents registered in '88

Meeting seeks ways to check traffic problems in Jordan

AMMAN (J.T.) — A two-day seminar on means to contain traffic problems in Jordan opened in Amman Tuesday; and the delegates heard appeals for close cooperation between all private and public organisations in the country to reduce the number of road accidents.

Public Security Department (PSD) Director Fadel Ali Fuheid, who opened the sessions, noted that scientific and technological development worldwide has led to the creation of problems for society, and also left its negative as well as positive impact on Jordan.

"Such development brought with it a number of factors which have been posing serious threat to security and stability," Fuheid said.

He said perhaps the most chronic problem resulting from such development is the one that has been plaguing traffic.

"Despite the fact that the development of means of transport and communications has served

as a boon for modern society, failure to introduce organisation and good management has resulted in adverse effects causing societies to suffer," Fuheid pointed out.

This meeting, Fuheid added, is taking place as Jordan is now witnessing a growing number of traffic problems affecting the Jordanian people's health, economic and social conditions.

"Policemen and the government are not enough to put an end to the problems, but close cooperation on the part of all organisations and individuals are rather needed to stem the danger and its causes," Fuheid said.

Brigadier Mohammad Bassouli, director of the police academy in Amman, reported that road accidents in Jordan, which registered 2,853 in 1970, rose to 18,038 by the end of 1988.

Bassouli said the increase in the number of accidents caused the death of 364 people in 1988, up from 209 in 1970; and the injured were 9,553 in 1988, up from 2,200

Committee for 'King's Highway' exhibition leaves for Tokyo

AMMAN (Petra) — The preparatory committee for the cultural exhibition "The King's Highway: 9000 years of Art and Culture in Jordan," which will be held in Tokyo on Oct. 26, left Amman Tuesday.

The six-day exhibition, organised by the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities in cooperation with the Japanese government and

private sector, includes a number of film-shows on tourist and archaeological sites in Jordan, folkloric dresses and rare antiquities.

On the sideline of the exhibition, a symposium on tourism in Jordan will be held in the Japanese capital and 120,000 tourist promotion material will be distributed in Japanese language.

Aqaba-Nweibeh route to operate hovercraft for trial period—Smadi

Aqaba-Nweibeh Land-Sea Route.

The 100-passenger hovercraft will be put into operation for a one-month trial period at first during the peak tourist season in the southern city of Aqaba, Smadi noted in a recent interview with Al Dustour daily newspaper.

The idea is to reduce pressure on the land-sea route and to boost tourism, Smadi noted.

The Ministry of Tourism in Jordan, Smadi added, has taken proper measures to make the trial period successful.

Referring to railway links with Syria, Smadi said that the existing line, which has recently been reactivated, carries tourists, passengers and goods.

But a replacement of the line with wider rails and more modern locomotives will require huge investments, although such development would boost tourism in both countries, he added.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation
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Regional, national concerns

DIFFERENT regions of the Kingdom have different priority issues determining the votes of their constituents. This is natural. Accordingly, the south of the country would probably regard the economical development of its region as uppermost on the minds of the voters there. There is a general consensus in the southern part of the country that that region has been unduly neglected by Amman in comparison with other parts of the country and that is evidenced by the fact that poverty and disease are still rampant there. The north, generally viewed as blessed with fertile lands and rich agriculture, would probably seek to consolidate its economic strength by additional economic fortifications.

On the other hand, the Balqa region, which is centred around Salt city, is in the happy position of being sandwiched between the north and the south both literally and figuratively speaking. Thus its priority issues are closer to those of the centre of the country, where Amman, the heart of the country, is situated. The capital Amman obviously concerns itself with the totality of the issues that affect the country whether economic, political, educational or social. As for Zerqa and its district, the concerns there are unique and peculiar stemming from its huge industrial base.

Yet there must be a common denominator linking all the regions of the country in one common cause which serves as the common thread that unites the entire population of the country in one paramount endeavour. That unifying catalyst is of course the shared conviction that their common country must continue to occupy a key place in the Middle East region and that the identity of its people is a cherished treasure that will be preserved, honoured and defended at all costs. Jordanians of all shades and roots have a collective vested interest in forging together a strategy to consolidate what they and their forefathers had struggled so diligently for throughout the past century. When the Great Arab Revolt reached the shore of the country and gave full expression to national aspirations in the country, the struggle of Jordanians proceeded forward at full speed ahead with Jordanians of all walks of life, heavily participating in its continued progress and consolidation. This is what the voters from all regions of the country have uppermost on their minds and hearts when they cast their votes for their representatives on Nov. 8. And they will surely vote for those who will never betray that solemn oath to protect and develop the country on the basis of enlightened guidelines.

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i Arabic daily on Tuesday warned the candidates running for the coming parliament against excessive promises to the electorate, and said that one has to be realistic and should differentiate between the aspirations and the means to achieve them. The paper said that all Jordanians want to find solutions for the problems that they have been confronting; and all citizens support the candidates' drive to introduce modernisation towards achieving a better and brighter life. But, it said, it must be noted that not all that is said can be achieved like magic. The paper said that even after they enter parliament the candidates will not be able to bring about the aspired change overnight, although they might be determined to fulfil their promises to the voters. It is only fair for the candidates to be quite honest with themselves and with the voters who will elect them to parliament, said the paper. It stressed the need for the candidates not to be over enthusiastic about matters which they know they cannot deal with, or for which they are not sure to find solutions.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily focuses attention on the Egyptian-Libyan meeting and hopes that it will lead to fruitful results, opening the door for more constructive work that can enhance Arab unity. Tareq Masa'weh says that the Libyan leader's former policies were unproductive since he used to point an accusation finger at other Arab leaders, and used to employ big slogans which he proved unable to implement. The writer accuses the Libyan president's policies of not assuming serious and stable attitude specially in his dealing with other Arab countries. Even by his own standards the Libyan leader's policies achieved nothing for his countrymen, the writer notes. He says indeed the opposite of what the Libyan president had hoped to achieve came about; and nothing of his slogans were implemented. Masa'weh says that the Arab masses can no more be taken in by empty slogans like those that filled the Arab atmosphere in the 1950s, and advises the Libyan leader to focus his attention on bolstering his relations more seriously with Egypt and Sudan on the one hand, and with his partners in the Maghreb union on the other.

Al Dustour daily took up the current election campaign in Jordan and noted that representatives of various public sectors are nominated to take up seats in the coming parliament. There is no doubt that the economic, social and educational developments over the past two decades have acted as a catalyst to make the Jordanian citizens and their candidates more mature politically and so determined to take part in endeavours for serving their nation, the paper noted. The paper referred to King Hussein's address on the eve of the election campaign in which he called on the Jordanian citizens to be conscientious and aware of the dangers surrounding their nation; and those elect responsible candidates to work for the future. The current meetings between voters and candidates, the paper said, is a healthy development, since it can help bolster the democratic process and pave the way for the coming parliament's work, the paper added. The paper echoed the King's statement in which he reminded the nation of the serious problems that await proper solutions and responsible deputies that can help bring them about.

Prisoner release gives ANC a legal voice

By Greg Myre
The Associated Press

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa — The unconditional release of seven African National Congress leaders is a resounding political victory for the guerrilla movement at a time when its military campaign has been dormant.

The hero's welcome for the seven, including six imprisoned for a quarter-century, reflects the powerful grass-roots support the ANC has among blacks despite repeated setbacks and government crackdowns throughout its 77-year history.

The ANC has been outlawed since 1960, and President F.W. de Klerk remains adamant that the organisation must renounce violence before it will be allowed to participate in negotiations for a new constitution.

However, the freeing of the

ANC leaders, coupled with de Klerk's recent decision to allow peaceful mass protests, "virtually amounts to de facto validation of the banned ANC," said the Sunday Times, the country's largest selling newspaper.

"At the very least, the demonisation of the ANC has begun," the newspaper said in an editorial.

The unconditional release of the seven marks the first time ranking ANC leaders have been permitted to engage in political activity in South Africa since the organisation was banned.

Also, government officials have been conferring with the ANC's imprisoned leader, Nelson Mandela, whose release is widely expected within the next several months. There is speculation he wants the ANC to be formally accepted as legal political force before he leaves prison.

ANC supporters, long denied

the chance to express their political sympathies, now have the green, gold and black ANC flag at marches — an action that previously brought swift police action.

At a rally in Durban, the ANC banner was raised on the flagpole at city hall and police allowed it to remain until the end of the demonstration.

Black-oriented newspapers have been printing articles favourable to the ANC and running pictures of its imprisoned and exiled leaders in outright defiance of government censorship laws.

New Nation, one of the country's most militant opposition newspapers, on Friday printed its entire front pages in green, gold and black, and ran pictures of the seven ex-prisoners under the headline, "ANC lives."

Such developments seemed unthinkable as recently as a year ago.

Then-President P.W. Botha and his security officials ceaselessly denounced the ANC as a Communist-led terrorist group that would be barred from any negotiations.

In addition, the ANC appeared to be in a period of uncertainty.

ANC President Oliver Tambo, 71, suffered a stroke in August and remains at a clinic in London. He has no clear successor, and there has been speculation of a rift between ANC hardliners who want increased military action and political leaders who believe negotiations could be on the horizon.

While the ANC publicly calls for an escalation of its armed struggle, its diplomatic isolation on the continent, with Botha and de Klerk meeting several black African leaders in the past year.

There have been more than 210 bombings responsible for 37 deaths since a state-of-emergency

was declared in June 1986. But the totals for this year are about 40 bombings and three deaths.

The ANC, based in Lusaka, Zambia, was forced to close its major military bases in Angola this year under a regional peace treaty signed by South Africa, Angola and Cuba.

The ANC has refused to say where the several thousand guerrillas were sent, but several reports said they were moved to Uganda and Tanzania, two countries that have had day-to-day contact with the southern African region.

The South African government also has been successful in easing its diplomatic isolation on the continent, with Botha and de Klerk meeting several black African leaders in the past year.

The ANC's bid to increase economic sanctions on South Africa has waned, with few new punitive measures being imposed

in the past two years.

While the government can claim a string of small victories, the ANC's support, particularly among the young, is considered stronger than ever.

Thousands of black youths fled South Africa in 1976 amid nationwide black violence to join the ANC and the organisation says about 100 new recruits a month since the unrest of 1984.

The organisation has an estimated 15,000 formal members in exile, and millions of supporters inside South Africa, where blacks account for 28 million of the 37 million population.

Most political analysts believe the ANC would be the biggest vote getter if open elections were held. Even relatively conservative black leaders at odds with ANC say it must be unbanned before serious political negotiations can take place.

White backlash fear in S.Africa

By William MacLean
Reuters

JOHANNESBURG — Fears of a white backlash against militant blacks grew in South Africa on Monday after jailed black activists released at the weekend immediately returned to political activity.

Pro-government South African newspapers warned the freed men against political militancy, saying it would hinder Nelson Mandela's release and delay reform.

The Citizen, which has close ties to the white National Party (NP) government, said continued black protests following the release of the eight men on Sunday after long prison terms could provoke a backlash from minority whites.

Within hours of the newspaper's warning, a bomb exploded early on Monday at the home of Ram Bulbulia, a top official of the anti-apartheid Transvaal Indian Congress, shattering 19 windows and damaging a door. There were no injuries.

"I feel this attack may have been politically motivated," said Bulbulia, an ethnic Indian who was at home with his wife and three children in the conservative white mining town of Springs in Eastern Transvaal Province when the bomb went off.

In its editorial comment, The Citizen said: "Our advice to the ex-prisoners is to act without provocation, since their release tests the waters for the release of Nelson Mandela, and nothing that happens should make the government think twice about freeing him."

The Afrikaans-language Beeld

said the eight would be sorely tempted to play a militant political role.

"We would seriously plead with them to resist those petitions... if there is to be reconciliation it must come from both sides."

The independent Business Day urged the eight to display "patience, tolerance and willingness to compromise."

It said: "White counter-action to black rallies, marches and acts of defiance will become a growing threat, especially when the internal ANC misuses its new found freedom to act openly."

The newspaper described the release of the eight nationalists as "an essential part of the pre-negotiation process."

New President F.W. de Klerk says black domestic reaction to the largest ever release of top ANC activists will determine when South Africa's longest serving political prisoner is freed.

Mandela's release would signal that Pretoria is ready for talks with the banned African National Congress (ANC) on easing 40 years of apartheid and giving voteless blacks a role in government.

The government brands ANC members as Communist terrorists but has hinted their leaders may eventually be allowed a part in talks with Pretoria along with other black groups.

The seven ANC members among the eight, who include former ANC Secretary-General Walter Sisulu, on Sunday held the organisation's first news conference in South Africa since it was banned 29 years ago.

The seven, who have never renounced the use of violence in

the anti-apartheid struggle, vowed to fight on until there was a non-racial South Africa.

"We don't choose people in terms of black or white, we are talking about a democratic method where black men and white men can be president. There is no question of basing it on colour," said Sisulu, 77.

On Monday the ex-prisoners, who together spent 185 years in captivity for trying to overthrow white rule, enjoyed their first full day of freedom resting with family and friends near Johannesburg and Pretoria.

Soweto, South Africa's biggest township, was festooned with the ANC's green gold and black coloured flags on Sunday, but most had been taken down by Monday.

"It's very quiet in the township today, but there was a lot of singing last night," said one resident.

ANC flags and banners have been increasingly on display illegally in black townships since the releases were announced and were a prominent feature of mass marches around the country on Saturday heralding the eight's imminent freedom.

The Citizen appealed to whites not to react with anger or frustration to the flying of ANC or Communist flags.

Hundreds of youths danced in dusty streets chanting slogans honouring the ANC and Sisulu. Mandela's closest comrade in arms and a leading member of Umkhonto We Sizwe (Spear of the Nation), the ANC's military wing.

"Welcome home, Umkhonto soldier," read one slogan.

Paralysis under the peaks

By Derek Brown

DEMOCRACY may have taken root here, as the ruling Pakistan People's Party claims. But its shoots are taking an unconscious time to appear above the surface of a political landscape blighted by intrigue, pettiness and sheer indolence.

In the 10-month-old era of Benazir Bhutto, the National Assembly has yet to pass a single significant piece of legislation. Most ministers in the bloated 50-member PPP cabinet spend little time in their offices. Instead, they demonstrate their political manliness by vying with the opposition to hold ever bigger mass rallies.

While the economy stagnates and the problems of poverty grow daily more acute, planning and investment decisions are concentrated ever more tightly into the twin peaks of the power pyramid: the Prime Minister's office, and the Bhutto family.

Ms. Bhutto's mother, Mrs. Begum Nusrat Bhutto, is effective deputy prime minister, and is increasingly active in foreign policy. The prime minister's husband, Asif Zardari, is not a formal member of the family business, but he has become an important influence-broker. The widespread belief that Mr. Zardari's own extensive business interests have prospered unnaturally this year are bitterly denied by his own family. Especially by Mr. Hakim Ali Zardari, the prime minister's father-in-law and chairman of the parliamentary Public Accounts Committee.

A web of patronage, typical of the subcontinent, stretches far beyond the Bhutto family. Estimates of the number of high and low-level public sector jobs given to PPP supporters range from 20,000 to 80,000. The process also works in reverse: more than 70 top-flight civil servants, between a quarter and a third of the total, are now officially OSD — On Special Duty. This coy bureaucratic gabble means that they are suspended, on suspicion of being less than totally loyal to the ruling clique.

For all this concentration of power, the PPP grip on Pakistan is far from total. The party does not have an absolute majority in the National Assembly, and depends on allies who always have a price for loyalty. In the Senate, which has important delaying powers, the ruling party is heavily outnumbered.

At the provincial level, the PPP controls only Sind and the Northwest Frontier. Opposition parties are in charge of Baluchistan, the smallest and perpetually turbulent western province, and in Punjab, which is bigger than all the rest put together.

The chief minister of Punjab is Mr. Mian Nawaz Sharif. He is Benazir Bhutto's bete noire; the man who would be king. As the head of the main opposition grouping, the Islamic Democratic Alliance (IDA), and as the former protege of President Zia Ul Haq, he personifies all that the PPP opposes and fears.

The confrontation between Punjab and the federal capital has come close to the kind of constitutional crisis which could provoke yet another military intervention, in a country which has known martial law or versions of it for three-quarters of its independent life. Federal officials have been arrested in Punjab; provincial officers threatened in Islamabad. Of the 74 top civil servants who are OSD, all but two are Punjab.

Nawaz Sharif has responded with gusto. He says he will set up a Punjab bank, a Punjab television station, a Punjab water and power service.

Sharif's hatred of the PPP and the Bhuttos is palpable. He believes them to be the antithesis of the Islamic Pakistan which the old dictator, Zia, tried to build. The chief minister told an IDA rally in Lahore last month: "Benazir Bhutto's government is the enemy of Pakistan and seeks to establish Indian hegemony in the country... the PPP's days are numbered... we will hold them accountable and dump the Bhuttos' remains in the Arabian Sea."

Up to a couple of months ago, this inflammatory rhetoric was matched, word for word, in PPP rally speeches. In recent weeks, however, the prime minister and her supporters have made a significant switch of style. Instead of violent attacks on the heirs of Zia, and extravagant self-praise of the defenders of democracy, there is a new emphasis on national unity and constitutionality. Two institutions are praised: the armed forces, and the Quaid-e-Azam, Mohammed Ali Jinnah, founder of the nation.

The army has responded handsomely, softening its insistence on an Islamic military victory in Afghanistan, and offering full support to democracy. The army chief, General Aslam Beg, has brushed aside recent persistent accounts of unrest in the cantonments. "A coup is absolutely impossible," he told reporters.

The army is solidly behind the government and wishes to see democracy take root.

Many Pakistani leader-writers and other observers have welcomed this conciliatory trend, with reservations. They detect a bid by the PPP not only to defuse the dangerous confrontation with Punjab, but to reassure the middle classes who worry about the government's hitherto deeply partisan approach. And yet, as

it is difficult to find in Pakistan, outside the sycophantic ranks of the PPP, anyone who shares the rosy view still generally taken by outsiders. According to Senator Clifton Pell, who visited Pakistan in August as chairman of the U.S. Senate foreign relations committee, "democracy in Pakistan is flourishing." He found that the press was free (mostly true), that parliamentary debate was robust (highly arguable) and that the state media gave coverage to the opposition (about 10 per cent of that given to the daily Bhutto show).

But then, it's easy, living outside the daily hardships and miseries that afflict most Pakistanis, to be mesmerised by the young, beautiful and intelligent women who stands for democracy.

The *Guardian*

Shivers down the spine of Europe

Beit Sahur's Tea Party

By Michal Sela

ON A DECEMBER night in 1773, in order to protest against the British policy of "taxation without representation," a band of Boston patriots staged an event that is remembered as the Boston Tea Party. Dressed as Red Indians, they boarded three ships at Boston port and dumped their cargoes of tea overboard.

Elias Rashmawi's "tea party" has been going on for over a year. Yesterday he attended his first court session at the Ramallah military court, where the West Bank military authorities are suing him for not paying his taxes. He was arrested a week ago, and an official at the office of the legal adviser to the Civil Administration told his attorney, Munia Rashmawi, that she could not find any valid reason for his arrest.

Three months ago, representatives of the tax authorities, accompanied by troops, loaded all the stock in his pharmacy, worth \$150,000, onto a truck.

However, Rashmawi doesn't intend to give up. It is a matter of principle for him and for the Beit Sahur community, which has adopted the 224-year-old concept: no taxation without representation.

Beit Sahur, on the way from Bethlehem to Herodion, is a town of 12,000 with a Christian majority and a Muslim minority. A town of pastoral tranquility, of small houses surrounded by gardens, it is a site for Christian pilgrims who wish to visit the Shepherds' Fields. This is a com-

munity with a rare solidarity and internal coherence, composed of people who believe they can bear the Israeli occupation using peaceful means.

When the intifada started, almost two years ago, the people of Beit Sahur chose a unique path. When the first leaflets were distributed by the Unified Leadership of the Uprising, Beit Sahur absorbed them down to the last detail and adopted the recommendation that most appealed to them: civil disobedience.

They threw stones at troops and at settlers' cars going through the town on their way to Tekoa and erected stone barricades across the streets. On one occasion, an Israeli truck was torched.

Palestinian flags and nationalistic graffiti were, and still are, seen about. These were minor instances of violence, compared to other towns in the West Bank.

In Beit Sahur, the soldiers' response has been somewhat different from other places: here, people haven't been killed by bullets; the first local intifada death, that of Edmond Ghanem, was caused by a stone dropped on him by a soldier from the top of a building used as a military lookout post.

Civil disobedience began with the idea of "home economy." Well-off families adopted a regime of self-imposed austerity, while a group of agronomists, professors at Bethlehem University, introduced the concept of applied science. Based on their own knowledge and experiments, they opened a nursery and gave their neighbours professional guidance on how to grow their own

salad vegetables.

The garden around the house of agronomist Jad Is'hak, a leading figure in the home-economy education effort, looked like a vegetable paradise. Food dehydration and preserving technology, which Is'hak had studied for years, was being put into practice.

The security forces, however, didn't like the idea. To them, dispersing violent demonstrations is child's play compared to fighting

other towns and villages.

Instead, hundreds of Beit Sahur people submitted their ID cards to the municipality and held a sit-down strike which went on for hours. This reaction was unfamiliar to the military authorities, who reacted with force, mass arrests and a curfew.

About three months ago, the military and tax authorities renewed their tax collection campaign - and this time, they got really tough. Systematically, day

want to have old age pension and schools for my grandchildren. I don't get that here."

Does he really need the suffering the whole town is going through?

"We don't need the intifada, but we want our identity, we want our children to have a secure future. We sacrificed in order to save bloodshed and innocent souls."

AN UPHOLSTERER was one of

them to turn my tools into arms. Now I can't pay the tax. If I do, my children will be beaten up."

Then, after a while, as homemade lemonade is being served, he adds: "The Israelis use us as simple labourers. We don't have any services in town, no national insurance, no unemployment benefits. They don't allow us to develop a real modern industry. Why, after all, should we pay taxes?"

With all the hardship following the confiscation of hundreds of dollars' worth of property, Beit Sahur has not surrendered. The residents are making a real nuisance of themselves to the authorities, who tried their luck once more. Last week became hell for the town, with at least 40 families subjected to the confiscation of private and commercial property. This week, dozens more have suffered confiscation.

The tax officials, escorted by troops, go from house to house humiliating and beating people, the residents relate. Some have complained that the troops put personal items in their pockets, including money. They took a butcher's furniture; in another house, they stopped the washing machine, pulled out the laundry and took the machine away with them. Many people were arrested, always by the army, as "security detainees," although the nature of their violation of the law is civilian.

From time to time, a detainee would be taken to the downtown tax office and told that all the others had paid their taxes. "Nobody took the trick seriously," said the man. They were released without any legal procedure, the way they had been arrested.

"I'm an upholsterer, not a politician. I work and I have to pay taxes, but as long as the government can't give me protection, I don't pay. Let them put me in jail as long as they wish. When you conquered the place, I said, 'Ahlan wasahlan!' I ha-

thim near his house. The man threw stones in return, erected a roadblock and attacked passers-by. When Mayor Hanna Al-Atash happened to drive past, the "collaborator" took him hostage and released him only after dire threats from the people who came to rescue the mayor.

As a punishment, youths evacuated all the women and children from the house, took out most of the furniture and torched the house, not before beating the "collaborator" and other men in the family.

When the townspeople began contacting the press and Jewish friends in Jerusalem, the military authorities imposed a curfew and cut all the telephone lines. Night curfew became routine.

WITH ALL THIS behind them, Beit Sahur still disobeys.

Beit Sahur has eight founding fathers. Hundreds of years have passed since they came here, lived together and married among themselves, the upholsterer says, giving a short historical background to the town's solidarity. "Today, anybody you can name — I know his wife and children. In July, we were under curfew for 21 days, and nobody went hungry."

Other people mention liberal attitudes and the large proportion of educated people as the reasons for Beit Sahur's different but much more successful intifada. "The idea behind civil disobedience," says a resident who requested anonymity, "is to make the intifada a non-violent activity."

Why, for the time being, has it succeeded only in Beit Sahur?

"We are the Japan of the West Bank; a community of highly educated, independent and enterprising people," says the resident, adding that Beit Sahur combines the solidarity of a village and the liberal lifestyle of a town. Out of all the West Bank communities, Beit Sahur — both as individuals and as a group — maintains continuous contacts with Israelis.

Its residents play tennis at the Tennis Centre in Jerusalem's San Simon neighbourhood, and there is a "dialogue relationship" with a Jewish group from the capital.

"There is no contradiction between the two," says Emili Rashmawi. "Taxes to the occupier are one thing; Israelis who find ways to reach us on curfew days are another. Whoever stretches out his arm in peace will meet my hand. But I can't live with those who come to me armed."

The media is also used as a means of struggle, and last Wednesday, Beit Sahur distributed a press release: "Taxes are paid by people to their own legitimate political bodies to cover the cost of services. The services provided to the Palestinians are opening new jails... building new settlements...."

The people of Beit Sahur are lamenting and disobeying, talking about the suffering caused by the troops and the tax people. At the same time, they announced this week in front of the television cameras: "The time has come to tell you: we shall continue employing non-violent tax resistance." — *The Jerusalem Post*.

Women power on the march worldwide

MORE THAN a billion women — one-third of the world's female population — will be in the economically active group at the dawn of the next century.

Although over 700 million of these women will be found in developing countries, their ranks will represent less than 50 per cent of the Third World female population between the ages of 15 and 64. The corresponding proportion in industrialised countries will be nearly 60 per cent.

These projections are based on an assumed continuation of trends which have evolved since the 1950s and they appear in a new ILO statistical analysis* of women and work. Charting the growth of women in the global workforce, it notes that in 1950 they numbered 263 million in developing countries and 148 million in the industrialised countries.

The study predicts that the shift in female employment from agriculture to industry and services will continue everywhere. It estimates that by the year 2000 the agricultural sector will absorb 57 per cent of the economically active women in developing countries whereas in 1950 the proportion was 87 per cent.

This decline will be even more striking in industrialised countries where only 8 per cent of economically active women will likely be found in agriculture by the turn of the century compared with 47 per cent in 1950.

In these countries women have turned to services far more than

to industry. In 1950 about 33 per cent of the economically active women were in services and about 20 per cent in industry. In 1980 the figures had risen to 58 per cent in services and 26 per cent in industry. And it is anticipated that the trend will become even more pronounced by the year 2000.

For Third World women employment in industry and services often means the informal sector although statistics concerning their participation tend to be incomplete, mainly because a good deal of their activities are not counted, the study says.

However, from the available data, in 1950 women made up 23 per cent of both the industry and services sectors in developing countries. If present patterns persist, it is expected that women will comprise 31 per cent of the non-agricultural sector by the year 2000.

The figures document increasing disparities between developing and developed countries in the prospects for equality between men and women in employment opportunities.

A telling example can be found when comparing women's overall share in the economically active population during the half century between 1950 and 2000. That share in industrialised countries was 37 per cent in 1950 and is projected to climb to 41 per cent by 2000. For women in developing countries the figure was and is expected to stay at 34 per cent — demonstrating almost no progress

during the 50-year period. Another area in which Third World women are losing out is in the number of years they can anticipate being gainfully employed as a result of changes in their economic activity. This time span has fallen steadily since 1950, when they could count on a working life of 27 years. Expectations for the year 2000 show only 23 economically active years.

Again, a reverse situation exists in industrialised countries. In 1950 the average working life for women was 25 years and all indications point to an increase to 29 years by 2000.

The study shows frequent part-time work and disproportionately high unemployment among women in developing countries.

Similarly, the information reflects high levels of female unemployment in the developing countries as well as seasonal work. There is also an underestimation of the economic contribution of women, particularly in countries in North Africa, South Asia and the Caribbean.

In addition to dealing with global trends and prospects for this burgeoning womanpower, the study devotes separate sections to women in Africa, in Asia and Oceania, in Latin America and the Caribbean, and in market and centrally planned economies. Graphically detailed charts complement the study's meticulously researched text.

The message is clear: vigorous

national and international efforts will be required to ensure women equal opportunity in access to

training and employment. The challenge is real since the billion women who will be in the labour

market in about a decade have already been born — *ILO Information*

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Trade deficit soars by \$10.7 b

Wall Street jitters

NEW YORK (AP) — U.S. stocks retreated sharply Tuesday following two of the wildest sessions on Wall Street since the October 1987 market crash.

The Dow Jones average of 30 industrial stocks was off about 63 points at the 2,595 level shortly after 11:30 a.m. (1530 GMT). Broader market indicators also fell.

The Dow average had plummeted 190.58 points Friday and it bounced back with a 88.12-point gain Monday, leaving investors grouping for stable ground.

The Commerce Department handed the market some bad news Tuesday with its report that the U.S. foreign merchandise trade deficit rose nearly 31 percent in August to \$10.77 billion from a revised July deficit of \$8.24 billion.

Many economists had expected the latest trade deficit to be about \$9 billion.

But analysts did not all agree that the big trade deficit was a major factor in Tuesday's stock decline. Some noted that bonds and the dollar — which are most sensitive to bad trade figures — held up relatively well in the early going.

The dollar partly recovered after a sharp drop after the trade report, while bonds were somewhat stronger — an indication that investors were not seriously worried about worsening inflation and higher interest rates.

"There's much more going on in the stock market at the moment than the trade numbers," said Lawrence Velti, international economist at Brown Brothers Harriman and Co. financial firm.

"You'll tend to see somewhat accelerated volatility this week and next," said Giulio Martini, economist at Sanford C. Bernstein and Co.

Monday's gain was concentrated in blue-chip stocks, which benefited from a "flight to quality" by nervous investors. It came on trading volume of 416.29 million shares, the heaviest ever except for the week of the 1987 market crash. The index's gain was the fourth-biggest point gain, although it was not among the biggest percentage gainers.

In the overall New York Stock Exchange Tuesday morning, declining issues outpaced advances by about 3-to-1 after the first two hours of trading. Volume on the

stage of the lower prices to boost their holdings.

But the early enthusiasm soon gave way to a more sober assessment and profit-taking late in the session, which had to be extended by one hour to process all the orders.

In Madrid, the Madrid stock market's general index rose 5.96 points, or two per cent, to a provisional closing figure of 311.18. The index fell 6.5 per cent Monday.

The Athens stock exchange general index rose 42.65 points, or 9.4 per cent at 497.79. It dropped 10.05 per cent Monday.

Earlier Tuesday, Tokyo staged a recovery, where the Nikkei index closed 527.39 points, or 1.3 per cent, higher at 34,996.08, regaining most of the ground it lost Monday.

The Dow Jones industrial average bounced back 88 points Monday after its 190-point plunge Friday the 13th.

Randall Goldsmith, an equities analyst at the London investment firm James Capel and Co., said: "In the short-term it will overheat the market."

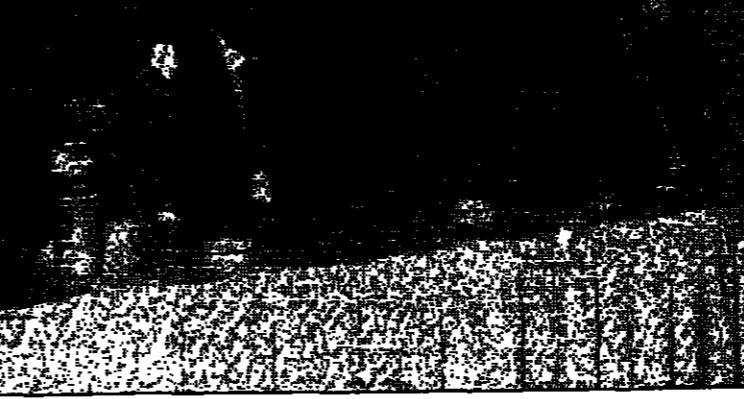
"The markets overreacted to Friday's slump on the street but then thought yesterday's rally was the end of it all. Well it's not over yet," one London dealer said.

"Rally or not, investor confidence here is very fragile and it's going to take time before they commit themselves again," said Jordan Trade Association Monday night.

During a one hour presentation which was followed by discussion, Odah pointed out that Jordanian industries had not taken full advantage of the customs services provided to them over the last twelve months.

He said that the customs exemptions of raw materials, semi-finished goods, machines and production equipment and other measures to protect locally produced goods had not been properly utilised by local producers.

After giving 120 companies special permission to import 19 million dinars worth of semi-finished goods, with the expressed intent to create a finished



Adel Qdah (centre), director-general of Jordan's Customs Department addresses members of the Jordan Trade Association, headed by Mr. Sami Darwazeh (right).

Jordan's customs chief pinpoints disadvantages

By Marwan M. Shabani
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — Customs dues and regulations of any given customs department either encourage or discourage a country's exports.

Adel Al Qdah, director-general of the Jordanian Customs Department told the chairman and members of the recently formed Jordan Trade Association Monday night.

During a one hour presentation which was followed by discussion, Odah pointed out that Jordanian industries had not taken full advantage of the customs services provided to them over the last twelve months.

He said that the customs exemptions of raw materials, semi-finished goods, machines and production equipment and other measures to protect locally produced goods had not been properly utilised by local producers.

After giving 120 companies special permission to import 19 million dinars worth of semi-finished goods, with the expressed intent to create a finished

products which would in turn be exported, only eight per cent or 1.5 million dinars worth of finished products were exported while 17.5 million JD's of the products remained on the Jordanian market, Odah said.

Such "lost opportunities" Odah said were detrimental to the Jordanian exporter. Odah told the audience, most of which belonged to the 25-member trade association.

He pointed out that the new customs centre in the industrial city of Sahab, east of Amman, catered exclusively to Jordanian industries and not to "middlemen." Industrialists in the audience said that they appreciated the move and hoped more such specialised centres would be set up in the near future.

Complaints

In response to complaints made by local industrialists, Odah said that intensive customs studies would continue because "in the last month alone we had 11 violations of exporting

rules." Odah was referring to items exported on the pretense of having been manufactured in Jordan while they had really been manufactured somewhere else.

He also pointed out that export permits now only require five official signatures when they required more than a dozen several years ago.

Responding to a complaint by a local exporter about the 13 official agencies which have to be contacted before a product is exported to other Arab countries such as Iraq, Odah pointed out that the Jordanian manufacturers had brought some bureaucratic regulations upon themselves by not regulating their produce for given standards, which include sizes and weights.

Odah, told the audience, which represented a cross-section of Jordan's industrial sector, that the Customs Department had been more than forthcoming, in an attempt to encourage exports and protect local products in the home market but that it was up to the industrialists themselves to meet the export potentials.

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

Kuwaiti fund gives Jordan soft loan

KUWAIT (Petra) — The Kuwait-based Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development has approved a 10.5 million Kuwaiti dinar soft loan to Jordan. A fund spokesman said the loan will be used to help Jordan carry out an electric grid linkage project with Egypt. He said that Egypt is to obtain a 34.1 million Kuwaiti dinar to help finance its part of the project on which work will start before the end of 1989. According to the spokesman, work on the project was expected to end by 1993 and the linkage will serve as a nucleus for linking the grids of Arab countries in North Africa and Asia. The Kuwaiti fund earlier provided a grant of 150,000 Kuwaiti dinars to finance a feasibility study of the project.

RJ leases Indonesia Tri Star

AMMAN (J.T.) — Royal Jordanian (RJ), the national airline, announced Tuesday that it will lease one of its Trip Star planes with its crew to the Indonesian airline for three months in 1990. An RJ spokesman said that agreement on leasing the plane was signed recently by the two sides, and that the Indonesian airline will employ the Jordanian aircraft on its Jakarta-Hong Kong route. The lease in implementation of an initial deal concluded between the two sides in January 1989 during a visit to Jakarta by Civil Aviation Authority Director-General Mahmoud Balqees who also visited the Philippines and Thailand for talks on air transport operations, had said that the Indonesian airline and RJ had also agreed to operate joint flights.

Italy eyes investments in Algeria

ALGIERS (R) — Italian Foreign Minister Gianni De Michelis foresees a jump in Italian investments in Algeria as a result of its liberal political and economic reforms. He told reporters after a one-day visit to Algiers that the two countries were discussing joint economic projects including the possible expansion of a gas pipeline between them. "We think there may be a qualitative jump in the near future in the process of political and economic reform in Algeria, especially in the direction of joint ventures and direct investment by the Italian private and public sectors," he said. Algeria is in the throes of transition from a one-party socialist state to a multi-party democracy, and it plans sweeping new incentives to attract foreign capital. De Michelis said the two sides had discussed a proposed expansion of an existing gas pipeline from Algeria to Italy via Tunisia. Italy is Algeria's biggest gas customer.

Gulf Air seeks \$400m loan

BAHRAIN (R) — Bahrain-based Gulf Air plans to borrow \$400 million to buy six new Boeing 767-300 aircraft. A spokesman for the airline told Reuter it had invited bids from the island's offshore banks for the loan, part of a plan to pay a total of a billion dollars for the Boeings and 12 Airbus A-320's. "We expect to complete this plan early next year," the spokesman said. The purchases would boost to 41 the number of aircrafts operated by Gulf Air, which is owned by the governments of Bahrain, Qatar, Oman and the emirate of Abu Dhabi. In April, Gulf Air signed a \$208 million loan with a syndicate of banks to buy four Boeing 767-300s. Gulf Air expects its 1989 profit to jump to around 30 million dinars (\$80 million) from 2.5 million (\$6.6 million) in 1988, the spokesman said. This would include funds from the sale in 1988 of eight ageing Boeing 737's. Gulf Air made losses in 1986 and 1987.

S. Arabia announces big gas find

DHAHRAN, Saudi Arabia (AP) — The Saudi Arabian Oil Co. has announced the discovery of a "substantial" new gas reservoir to the southeast of the capital, Riyadh. The company, also known as Saudi Aramco, said a wildcat well drilled 75 kilometers southeast of Riyadh encountered a new gas zone at a depth of around 7,900 feet (2,300 meters). "Subsequent coring of this zone confirmed the existence of a substantial gas reservoir," Saudi Aramco said. The well, Dilm-1, tested sweet gas at a rate of 50 million cubic feet (1.4 million cubic metres) per day and yielded gas condensate with a gravity of 65 degrees API, Saudi Aramco said. The company plans further research to determine the thickness of the gas reservoir and estimate the reserves of the new field. Last June, Saudi Aramco announced the discovery of sweet crude oil in a wildcat drilled in the Al Hawtah region, around 190 kilometers south of Riyadh.

Poland devalues zloty by 14.7%

WARSAW (R) — Poland's new Solidarity-led government has devalued the zloty by 14.7 per cent against the dollar in line with plans to move an ailing, centrally planned economy closer to Western models. The national bank set the new rate at 2,100 zlotys to the dollar, against 1,791 Friday, according to figures published by the government newspaper *Rzecznik*. It was the 12th big devaluation this year. The previous one, and the biggest of the year, was on Sept. 28 when the value of the Polish currency was cut by 20 per cent in relation to the dollar. Finance ministry officials said previously they planned two big realignments in October and more before the end of the year to create a single exchange rate as soon as possible and restore confidence in the zloty. Polish citizens have to pay about 8,000 zloties for a dollar on the free market and the devaluation did not affect this rate. The official rate applies only to foreign tourists and foreign trade dealings.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Tuesday, October 17, 1989		Central Bank official rates	
Buy	Sell	French franc	99.0 100.0
627.0	632.0	Japanese yen (for 100)	441.4 445.8
U.S. dollar		Dutch guilder	298.1 301.1
585.2	592.1	Swedish crown	97.0 98.0
334.5	339.9	Italian lira (for 100)	45.8 46.3
363.9	367.7	Belgian franc (for 10)	160.2 161.8

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.	
One Sterling	1.5755/65
One U.S. dollar	1.1740/50
	1.8652/60
2.1053/60	
1.6360/70	
39.15/19	
6.3375/425	
1372/1373	
142.45/55	
6.4725/75	
6.9550/600	
7.2750/800	
One ounce of gold	365.80/366.30

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

By Reuters

SYDNEY — The share market retraced nearly half of Monday's slump and the All Ordinaries Index closed 61.7 points up at 1,662.6.

TOKYO — An early buying spree led by Japanese institutions pumped energy back into the market after Wall Street's overnight gains. The Nikkei Index rebounded 527.39 points to close at 34,996.08.

HONG KONG — Blue chips held on to early gains after Wall Street's rebound but profit-taking capped the recovery. The Hang Seng Index closed 94.20 up at 2,695.90.

SINGAPORE — Strong foreign and institutional buying and bargain-hunting helped the Straits Times Industrial Index recover 56.79 points to close at 1,341.83.

BOMBAY — Share prices tumbled on the Bombay stock exchange on heavy nervous selling triggered by reports Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi is calling elections ahead of schedule.

FRANKFURT — West German shares clawed back some of Monday's record losses. The Dax Index of 30 blue chips closed at 1,475.44 points, up 6.5 per cent.

PARIS — French share prices reversed earlier modest gains, but then steadied. The CAC-40 Index was 5.73 points or 0.31 per cent down at 1,804.04 up by 1315 GMT.

LONDON — Shares remained depressed in nervous volatile trade. By 1518 GMT the FTSE 100 was 29.3 points or 1.4 per cent down at 2134.1.

NEW YORK — Wall Street blue chips continued to decline following news that the U.S. trade gap in August widened considerably. The Dow was off 31.56 at 2625.41.

JUMBLE

THAT SCRABBLE WORD GAME
by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

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LARREB

PARTUB

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HOW THE BACKSEAT DRIVER'S HUSBAND DROVE.

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Print answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

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Answer: That beloved movie villain was so good at being this—SO BAD

Peanuts

Mutt 'n' Jeff

Andy Capp



Sports

Barcelona has something to prove

BRUSSELS (R) — Title-holders Barcelona are out to prove they have finally overcome their early-season slump when they meet Belgian League leaders Anderlecht in a European Cup Winners' Cup second round first leg match Wednesday.

Barcelona, although only seventh in the Spanish League, now trail leaders Real Madrid by just two points and can demonstrate against Anderlecht that they are ready to resume their place among Europe's leading soccer sides.

"It looks like the weak period of Barcelona is finally over," said Anderlecht's Dutch coach Aad de Mos, formerly of Ajax Amsterdam and Mechelen, who is predicting an exciting match.

"We'll see two teams not just aiming for a good result but also concerned about the way they play because they have to think about their prestige."

The most important thing is to prevent Barcelona from scoring here. We have to keep that zero on the scoreboard as we've done in all our home matches this season," he said.

Barcelona started off the Spanish season in disastrous fashion and calls for Dutch coach Johan Cruyff to resign spread rapidly after the ambitious Catalan side lost their first three away

matches.

But the tide started to turn when Barcelona squeezed past Legia Warsaw in the Cup winners' cup first round last month.

They kept the momentum going to beat arch-rivals and Spanish champions Real Madrid 3-1 last week and geared themselves up for the Anderlecht tie with 90 minutes of shooting practice against Rayo Vallecano, who were lucky to get away with a 7-1 defeat.

The Catalan club's star Libero Ronald Koeman even became the Spanish League's joint top scorer with Real Madrid's Hugo Sanchez when he scored his side's seventh goal, although all six of his goals have come from the penalty spot.

Before leaving for Brussels Monday, Cruyff said his team would play attacking football and was confident they would defeat. But he added that Anderlecht were a tough proposition.

"Anderlecht are playing well at the moment and it won't be an easy round," he said.

The Belgians, winners of the trophy in 1976 and 1978, have experienced a considerably easier time than their Spanish opponents so far this season.

They disposed of Northern Irish amateurs Ballymena United with a 10-0 aggregate score.

Agassi advances, Curren upset

TOKYO (AP) — Andre Agassi breezed past Australian Wally Masur 6-3, 6-4 Monday while fellow American Kevin Curren was upset by unseeded Eric Jelen of West Germany in the first round of the \$627,500 Seiko pro tennis tournament.

The 19-year-old Agassi lost only two points on his own service in the first set as he won 62 percent of his first serves against Agassi's 61.

"All his shots were much better than mine. I need more experience," the 17-year-old Tanizawa told reporters.

Dan Goldie, the no. 8 seed, beat fellow American Paul Chamberlain 6-4, 6-4 and Canadian Grant Connell down American Scott Davis 6-3, 6-3.

Australian John Fitzgerald trounced Thomas Hogstedt of Sweden 6-3, 6-2.

Hervé Leconte of France struggled to a first set tie-break but then easily wrapped up a 7-6 (7-2), 6-0 triumph over Japan's Tomihisa Tsuchihashi.

Leif Silvas overwhelmed fellow American Tommy Ha 6-4, 6-2.

American Aaron Krickstein fought through two tie-breaks before downing Slobodan Zivojinovic of Yugoslavia 6-3, 6-7 (6-10), 7-6 (7-4) in almost two hours.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1989

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Fighter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: If you want to make full use of today and tonight mixed aspects you will have to rely more on your institutions and hunches. Career goals are shaping up nicely at this time.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Going Dutch treat with your friends now would keep worthwhile friendships intact. Take your attachment an article of beauty or colour.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 20) Now would be a good time to join an organisation including friends you like. You have a good chance to improve home conditions now.

ARIES: (March 20 to April 17) A couple from a distance will have excellent advice for your future. You can make money through now taking a business risk.

TAURUS: (April 18 to May 19) Fixing up your home can be easily accomplished. You can join with your close attachment in a business association now.

GEMINI: (May 20 to June 20) Being critical at home could alienate you from members of your family. Be off with close friends to seek interesting companions.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 21 to July 21) Don't invite an interesting group into your home at this time. You will be tempted to spend more money than is sensible.

PISCES: (February 18 to March 19) Invite younger persons into your home. Accepting more responsibilities in business will bring you more income. Steer clear of friends who are not reciprocal and economic.

AQUARIUS: (January 19 to February 17) A very good day for you to invite and entertain charms in your home. Facts and figures require much care in anything of a financial nature.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Be off and about to interesting activities with your attachment. Resentment at home will cause you nothing but unhappiness.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 21) Restlessness at home requires that you and your family get out of the house. If you are going to do business now a large firm is best.

LIBRA: (September 22 to October 22) Do nothing now that would cause business persons to think you are cheap. Seeing too much of one friend can cause you unnecessary problems.

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Silivas still trying to win a major title

STUTTGART (AP) — Unless she wins the women's all-around title at this year's gymnastics world championships, Daniela Silivas may be remembered as the gymnast who lost by the closest margin in the history of the sport.

Ever since she burst onto the scene in 1985 as a 15-year-old, the Romanian has been one of the dominant competitors.

But one goal has always eluded her: the title of the best all-around gymnast at a major meet, such as the Olympics or the world championships.

Not that Silivas hasn't come close — very, very close.

At the 1988 Seoul Olympics, the Soviet star, Yelena Shushunova, edged Silivas by a mere 0.025 points for the gold medal. That was the closest margin in the history of the all-around event. The three golds Silivas later won in the apparatus final did little to alleviate her disappointment.

At the European championships in Brussels in May, Silivas was beaten by another Soviet, Svetlana Boginskaya, this time by 0.013.

It was a classic battle. Going into the final exercise, on the floor, the two rivals were tied on points. Silivas was the first of the two to perform and ended up earning 9.987 for a daring display.

Now, two years later, Silivas is 19, mature for a woman gymnast, and is probably competing in her last world championships.

Her start on Monday had something of a déjà vu feeling for Silivas. The Romanian started by scoring a perfect 10 in her floor exercise and scored high on other apparatus — her lowest score was 9.912 on the uneven bars. But Silivas still ended only second in the compulsory portion of the women's team competition.

Boginskaya, an elegant 16-year-old, didn't score a 10 but had a steadier performance and no marks lower than 9.925 for a combined total of 39.837 to Silivas' 39.699.

Soviets to play one of the most capitalist Western sports.

Less than a year from now, the Soviet Union's first golf course, a nine-hole layout by the Swedish embassy in the heart of downtown Moscow, will be opened to the public.

It will end a 20-year dream for Tumba, the former Swedish ice hockey and soccer international star.

"Not bad," said his mentor, Sven Tumba. "You're learning fast."

CAPRICORN: (December 21 to January 19) Get all possible business data that you need from experts. A time when you need to keep your temper under control when with your friends.

CARIBON: (January 20 to February 18) A good time for you to invite and entertain charms in your home. Facts and figures require much care in anything of a financial nature.

PISCES: (February 19 to March 19) Invite younger persons into your home. Accepting more responsibilities in business will bring you more income. Steer clear of friends who are not reciprocal and economic.

TODAY'S CHILD: If your child was born today he or she will be good at anything that is of an intellectual nature that requires careful analysis. This individual will want to do things their own way and will resist group activities with the exception of sport activity which will become important at an early age.

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Puerto Ricans soldier on after training accident

STUTTGART (R) — The Puerto Rican women's team, competing after team mate Adriana Duffy was paralysed in a training accident, ended their appearance at the world gymnastics championships with a respectable performance in the team optional exercises Tuesday.

Only the lowest-placed teams from the compulsory half of the event competed Tuesday. The others, including leaders the Soviet Union and defending champions Romania, will be in action Wednesday.

The first medals of the nine-day championships, in the men's team event, were being awarded later Tuesday with the Soviet Union looking virtually certain to retain the title they have won on four of the last five occasions.

Going into Tuesday evening's optional exercises, which make up the second half of the team competition, the Soviet six led East Germany by 29.15 points to 28.80 with China just behind in third place.

Olympic champion Vladimir Artemov headed the individual standings, which will be used to determine the 36 qualifiers for the all-around final Thursday, with all his team mates also among the leading 10.

Marseille promises progress

MARSEILLE, France (R) — Marseille's multi-million-dollar team of all the talents will try to put their recent poor form behind them when they face Aek Athens in the second round of the European Cup Wednesday.

Club president Bernard Tapie, determined to provide an atmosphere to match his ambitions of bringing the trophy to France for the first time, has launched a major drive to attract more supporters.

He has dropped gate prices by 30 per cent and promised fans the chance to see Paris St. Germain vs Juventus and AC Milan vs Real Madrid on giant screens before and after the first-leg game in the hope of luring at least 35,000 to the Stade Velodrome.

Marseille, who are training in seclusion at Digne in the Alps, are expected to ring the changes after some disappointing league results. They have scored just twice in their last three games, all against struggling clubs.

Trainer Gerard Gilli said the shock 1-1 home draw with Cannes Saturday was already forgotten. "The league has nothing to do with the European Cup," he said.

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East Berlin sentences rioters as thousands march for reform

EAST BERLIN (Agencies) — East Germany announced jail terms for three rioters Tuesday amid a wave of demands for change in the hardline communist state.

A leading newspaper broke news of the prison sentences in Dresden shortly after demonstrations for reform in that city and in Leipzig, where 100,000 marched through the streets in one of East Germany's biggest protests.

Western diplomats and Protestant church sources said the upsurge in protests, less than a week after the leadership agreed to consider limited reforms, indicated people were not satisfied with what was being offered.

The daily *Junge Welt* said three men from Dresden, arrested in riots two weeks ago during East Germany's 40th anniversary celebrations, were jailed last Friday for up to four-and-a-half years for hooliganism, unlawful assembly and resisting police.

Hours before the widely-read youth newspaper was published, a big crowd marched peacefully through Leipzig Monday chanting "we are the people" and "give young people power."

At least 100,000 people thronged the streets of the major industrial and trade centre in one

of the biggest protests since a failed workers' revolt in 1953, according to diplomats and other witnesses.

The tail of the procession had barely left the opera square and already the head was coming back towards the square around the ring road," said a diplomat who was in Leipzig.

In Dresden, a smaller city on the River Elbe, more than 10,000 people besieged the town hall Monday evening to demand news on talks between Mayor Wolfgang Berghofer, a group of 26 protesters and church representatives.

Chanting "here and now" and "we have waited 40 years already," the crowd refused to disperse until Berghofer appeared at a window with a megaphone to say the talks would continue.

The Protestant church sources in Dresden told Reuters by telephone that the protesters would brief citizens in churches Tuesday night on progress in the talks, begun by Berghofer last week to

defuse tension. But church leaders fear people's patience is running out because there is little sign of change from the officially-sanctioned talks in Dresden and other towns.

The Communist Party's ruling Politburo said last Wednesday it was ready to start a dialogue on ways of making the orthodox system more attractive. But it ruled out talks with the opposition movement headed by the 26,000-strong New Forum group.

Diplomats said the 21-man Politburo was expected to meet Tuesday but would not necessarily make its deliberations public, despite growing openness in the official media.

The party's policy-making Central Committee is expected to draw up proposals for change within the next month, but the date of its meeting is not yet known.

"People are not ready to wait much longer," said a church official, who said demonstrators could take to the streets in force again to vent their frustration.

The diplomats said the atmosphere on the Leipzig march was orderly but impatient. Police and workers' militia kept a low profile and did not intervene except to direct traffic.



A young East German lights candles for political prisoners outside the Gethsemane Protestant church in East Berlin.

CIA wants looser rules on killings during coups

NEW YORK (Agencies) — Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) Director William Webster was quoted Tuesday as urging the easing of curbs on U.S. involvement in coups that could result in the death of a country's leader.

In an interview with the New York Times, Webster referred specifically to the Oct. 6 attempt against Panamanian leader General Manue Antonio Noriega.

He suggested that a longstanding presidential executive order barring U.S. involvement in assassinations had severely limited the CIA's ability to deal with the coup plotters.

The executive order was adopted in 1976 by former President Gerald Ford after a congressional probe detailed the CIA's role in assassination plots against Cuban President Fidel Castro and other foreign leaders.

"The United States does not engage in selective, individual assassination," Webster was quoted as saying.

"But the United States has other important overriding concerns about security and protecting democracy in areas of the world

where it has a legitimate claim of interest," he said. "And when despots take over, there has to be a means to deal with the short of making us (out) to be hired killers."

The CIA director said the order bars the United States from devising a plan to assassinate Noriega.

"Now the next thing is, hire a guy to kill Noriega or hire a group who wants to kill Noriega," he said. "Our executive order would have in the past been construed at least that we could not do that because we would just be using someone else to do what we couldn't do ourselves."

Asked if the order had played a key role in the failure of the Panamanian coup, Webster said he was uncertain.

But he said the order "could very well make a difference in the next one because the likelihood of the next plotter planning that he may probably have to take

that there were no attacks on me," he said, adding that on the night in question he had attended a meeting with voters in a Moscow district.

The populist politician went on to reject a series of reports about him.

"Having swum 300 metres down river, he climbed out, had a rest and went to the police."

Later Yeltsin asked police not to report the incident. He denied there had been an assassination attempt and asked police to close the case, Bakatin said.

The minister said there was no evidence to support Yeltsin's story.

Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev quoted Yeltsin as having told the leadership that he had played a bad joke but he hinted the story could have political ramifications.

While Yeltsin was on a tour of the United States last month, the Communist Party daily *Pravda* reprinted an article by the Italian newspaper *La Repubblica* saying he had been drinking heavily.

Yeltsin denies story of being dumped in river

MOSCOW (R) — Reformist politician Boris Yeltsin said Tuesday the Soviet leadership was trying to discredit him with an accusation that he fabricated a claim of an assassination attempt.

Interior Minister Vadim Bakatin said an incredulous Supreme Soviet, the inner parliament, Monday that a soaking-wet Yeltsin had gone to the authorities one night last month saying someone had thrown him into the Moscow River.

"This is not a question for a meeting of the Supreme Soviet," Yeltsin said during a break in Tuesday's session of parliament.

"It is the wish of the leadership to discredit a deputy, to diminish his authority and to distract the voters from more painful subjects."

The plain-spoken former Moscow party chief, plagued by allegations that he drank his way through a U.S. lecture tour, repeated his denials that he had been assaulted.

"I can only repeat what I said,

that there were no attacks on me," he said, adding that on the night in question he had attended a meeting with voters in a Moscow district.

"Unknown persons dragged him into a car and put a sack over his head. He was dragged out of the car and thrown off a bridge in the Moscow River," Bakatin said.

Yeltsin told police.

"Having swum 300 metres down river, he climbed out, had a rest and went to the police."

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KGB returns Wallenberg papers, voices remorse over his death

MOSCOW (AP) — Nearly 45 years after Swedish diplomat Raoul Wallenberg was arrested by Soviet security forces in wartime Budapest and vanished, a deputy chief of the KGB has apologized for the arrest and handed the missing man's personal effects to his stunned relatives.

It was terribly emotional to see his handwriting and his photograph and his identity papers," said Nina Lagergren of receiving the passport, driver's license, address book, calendar and cash that her long-lost brother was carrying when he was arrested in January 1945.

Soviet officials for the first time expressed remorse over the Stalin-era arrest of Wallenberg, who saved tens of thousands of people from the Nazi gas chambers, Lagergren said.

The detention of Wallenberg was a tragic mistake," Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennady Gerasimov told a separate press briefing.

However, the Soviets clung to their decades-old assertion that Wallenberg died of heart failure in Moscow's Lubyanka prison in 1947.

That claim is forcefully rejected by the Swedes, due to

numerous sightings of Wallenberg in Vladimir prison during the 1930s and more erratic reports since then.

"We are confident that he was able to survive," Lagergren said. She believes Wallenberg is still being held in isolation at the age of 77, with his identity long covered up.

Per Anger, who was a colleague of Wallenberg in Hungary in the violent waning days of the war and now heads the Raoul Wallenberg Association in Stockholm, said current authorities had been genuinely ignorant of Wallenberg's fate.

"We think it's difficult to find people in the Gulag," he said, using the term for the Soviet network of prison camps. The delegation gave the Soviets a list of sightings and expects to meet twice more this week, Anger said.

In a strange twist, Anger added to the mystery around Wallenberg by refusing to tell reporters when and where the diplomat was last reported seen.

"We hope in the not too distant future we can tell you more," Anger said. "We are in a dialogue with Soviet authorities and we can't tell you."

The only proof offered by Pirzhevsk and Deputy Foreign Minister Valentin Nikiforov to the small delegation of relatives and supporters was the same doctor's letter reporting the death that they revealed in 1957.

Pirzhevsk told the group Wallenberg's personal effects were found right in KGB headquarters in the Lubyanka last month, said Guy von Dardel, Wallenberg's half-brother.

"He said there were sacks and sacks of documents," von Dardel said. "It seemed they had to do a lot of work to find them."

Wallenberg's blue diplomatic passport, stamped with the three crowns of Sweden, shows a square-jawed, balding 32-year-old in the prime of his life. It carries all the necessary stamps of Sweden, Hungary and Nazi Germany to show the graduate of the University of Michigan had full diplomatic immunity at the time of his arrest.

Anger said the passport proves that Soviet secret police deliberately violated international law in charging Wallenberg Association, said she personally does not cling to any hope that the diplomat is still alive.

LIMERICK, Ireland (R) — Snakes, banished from Ireland by Saint Patrick almost 1,000 years ago, are making a comeback on the Emerald Isle — as guard dogs.

"We have sold at least 10 in the past six weeks alone," said Limerick petshop owner Guy Mullally, who offers a whole range of mobile burglar alarms from American ribbon snakes to pythons. Residents of this western city apparently consider a hissing serpent more effective than a growling guard dog. Given a supply of mice every two weeks, they are also less expensive to feed than German shepherds or rottweilers.

But the petshop's burglar alarm campaign has suffered some bad blows — two of the guard snakes escaped from their new homes and three have been stolen.

"The streets look here as been good," Ozer said. "Sometimes it's fashionable to like it. Sometimes it's unfashionable to like it. It's now in fashion."

Snakes — the new guard dogs?

Global weather (major world cities)

MON. MAX.

AMSTERDAM — 10 50 18 64 Clear

ATHENS — 12 54 19 62 Cloudy

BAHRAM — 24 75 32 80 Clear

BANGKOK — 25 77 32 80 Clear

BUENOS AIRES — 10 50 19 60 Rain

CARDO — 18 64 28 72 Clear

CHICAGO — 16 60 25 63 Cloudy

COPENHAGEN — 13 55 13 55 Cloudy

FRANKFURT — 01 34 14 57 Clear

GENEVA — 01 34 14 57 Clear

HONG KONG — 22 72 23 73 Cloudy

ISTANBUL — 05 46 13 55 Rain

LOS ANGELES — 11 62 20 68 Clear

MADRID — 13 59 22 72 Clear

MECCA — 24 75 41 105 Clear

MOSCOW — 03 46 24 75 Cloudy

NEW DELHI — 17 69 32 80 Clear

NEW YORK — 14 57 21 69 Cloudy

PARIS — 04 43 19 68 Cloudy

ROME — 17 63 19 71 Cloudy

SYDNEY — 05 47 17 63 Clear

TOKYO — 16 61 21 70 Cloudy

VIENNA — 03 47 17 63 Clear

Modern morality vs. British royalty

By Ben Dobbins
The Associated Press

LONDON — Marina Oglivie is two months pregnant and refuses to marry the father until after the child is born. She says her parents are demanding they marry now or have an abortion.

This sad and commonplace tale of modern morality qualifies as a royal scandal, albeit a marginal one, because Miss Oglivie is 24th in line to the throne, her mother being Queen Elizabeth II's first cousin.

The royal family has recently suffered the breakup of the marriage of Princess Anne, the queen's daughter. Now, say royal-watchers, 23-year-old Miss Oglivie has broken palace taboos by going public in lurid detail about her estrangement from her parents, Sir Angus Oglivie and Princess Alexandra.

The affair took on bigger dimensions Monday when Miss Oglivie, clutching the hand of boyfriend Paul Mowatt, broadcast a tearful plea to her mother over BBC-TV.

"I want you to really stand by me and love me as a mother," she said in the taped interview with host Robert Kilroy-Silk.

Miss Oglivie said: "We believe we are doing the right thing and it's what we want to do."

"I don't agree that Marina should be pushed up the aisle into, as such, a shotgun wedding," Mowatt said. They said the baby is due in May and they plan to marry sometime afterwards.

Miss Oglivie first went public in an interview published Oct. 9 in *Today*, a London tabloid, in which she claimed her parents had tried to trick her into an abortion, disowned her and cut



Marina Oglivie, 23-year-old cousin of Queen Elizabeth and 24th in line to the British throne.

Miss Oglivie's public antics.

"The strength of the royal family is that they're always closed ranks and stuck together," he said. "Disagreements always happen behind palace walls."

He described Princess Alexandra as "probably the most compassionate person the royal family ever produced. ... no child should act that way even towards parents who are less perfect than these (the Oglivies) are."

Local political commentators say Bhutto, who comes from the southern province of Sind, wants to use Bhutto's influence in Punjab to subdue her main rival, the present Punjab Chief Minister Nawaz Sharif of the Islamic Democratic Alliance.

Bhutto left the PPP in 1986 on his return from nine years of European exile because of differences with Bhutto. He joined other party dissidents to launch the NPP and in 1988 formed his own faction within the party.

He first joined PPP in 1968 when it was founded by Miss Bhutto's father, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto.

The elder Bhutto counted Khar among his closest associates until he broke ranks in the mid-1970s. His departure came shortly before the elder Bhutto was toppled in a bloodless coup in 1977.

Two years later Ms. Bhutto, who was hanged for allegedly plotting to kill a political foe.